

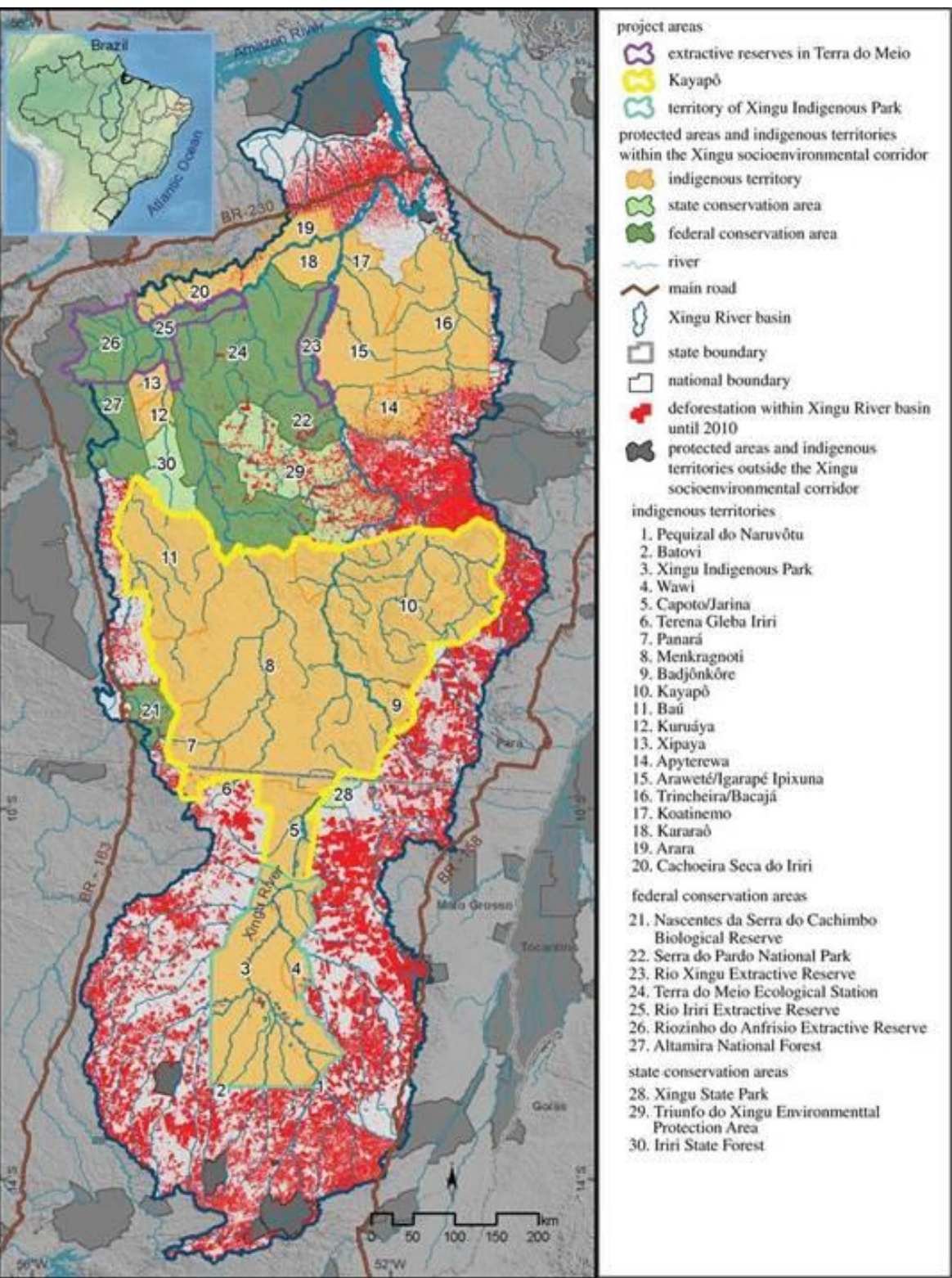
ANTH 418 Indigenous Peoples Conservation and Development

Aukre, Brazil

Kayapó Media Making: Building On-Site Capacity

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BACKGROUND



Map of the Kayapó indigenous Lands.
Photo source Schwartzman, Stephan, et. Al. 2013.
The Natural and Social History of the Indigenous Lands and Protected Areas Corridor of the Xingu River Basin. Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B. 368:1-16.

This service learning initiative aims to create on-site capacity for media production through the creation of a sustainable media center in the Kayapó community of Aukre, Brazil. The Kayapó are one of several indigenous communities living in the upper Amazonian region of Brazil. The village of Aukre, located within the Kayapó Indigenous Lands, in the Xingu River Basin. This fly-in community sustains it’s current energy need for various electronic devices through house hold solar power and community gasoline generators. The service learning course and media center project partners with Kayapó community members during an annual three week summer study abroad course where students are introduced to Kayapó lifeways, conservation initiatives, as well as the history of development in the Amazonian region of Brazil.

SUMMER OBJECTIVES

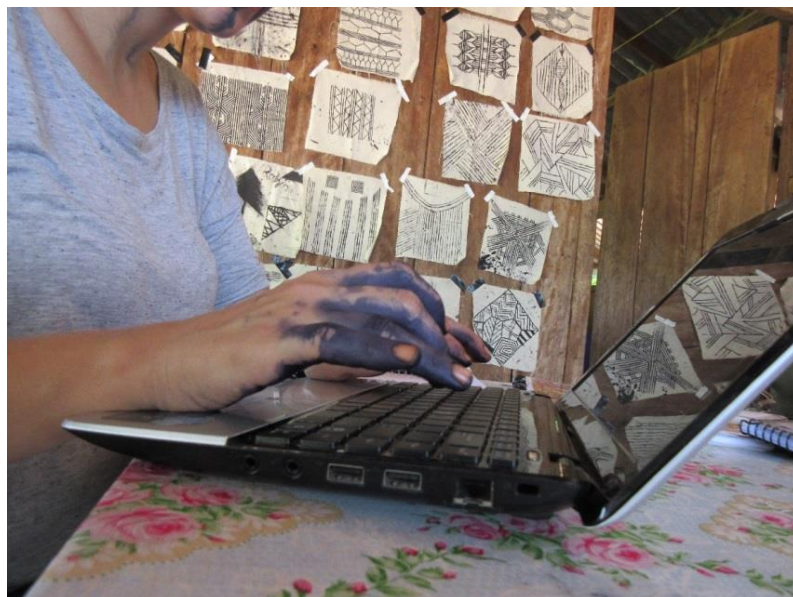
- Set up the first media center prototype.
- Meet with community members to discuss the media center project plan and receive feedback from chiefs, community members, and filmmakers about future ideas.
- Test laptop system prototype through community film viewings and film maker use.
- Gather information for future development of the media center including building measurements, photos, and power needs.



Students on their way to the Pinkaiti Research Station, 2014.



Purdue students wearing Kayapó dresses in Aukre, 2015.



UFU researcher typing field notes Aukre, 2015.

KAYAPÓ MEDIA

Audiovisual resources have been used by Kayapó communities for diverse initiatives including documenting political happenings, production of Kayapó pop music, as well as the making of community films which are viewed by and circulated amongst community members and between Kayapó villages. Aukre has identified media making as valuable for cultural heritage and self-determination initiatives.



Kayapó Filmmaker, Glen Shepard, 2011.



Laptop prototype in use to watch community film, Aukre, 2015.

PROCESS

2008

Media interests identified in Aukre. Multiple project partnerships begin.

2013

Media center project grows in Aukre as film makers are identified and begin to train. Aukre community members visit UFU to present their work.

2014

Service learning course continues with UMD and Purdue. Student photos added to community archive. Discussions continue and prototype is projected for 2015.

January 2015

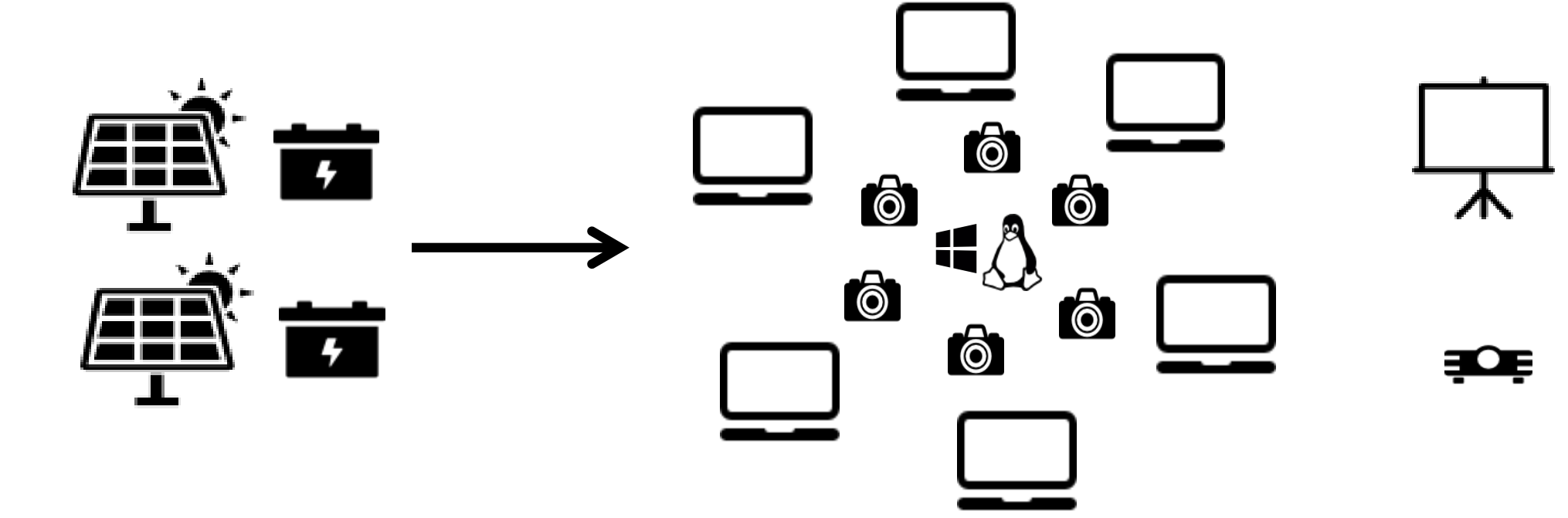
Purdue EPICS team begins researching and brainstorming to develop a media center prototype

May 2015

Purdue EPICS students suggest the first components of the media center including laptop hardware and an open source software system.

June 2015

Purdue Zanotti, Ramón Parra, and Harris work to build the first prototype of the Media Center for Summer 2015 which includes six dual boot Linux Mint/Windows 8 laptops, Linux media software, Windows media software, cameras, video recorders, storage devices, a small solar power system, and supporting electronics.



July 2015

First prototype is delivered during the Purdue study abroad course

August 2015

Purdue EPICS team reconvenes to address challenges identified during the summer



Students help construct media center tables, July 2015.



Image created for students and community, Ingrid Ramón Parra.



Ph.D. Student Ingrid Ramón Parra films during a meeting, July 2015.

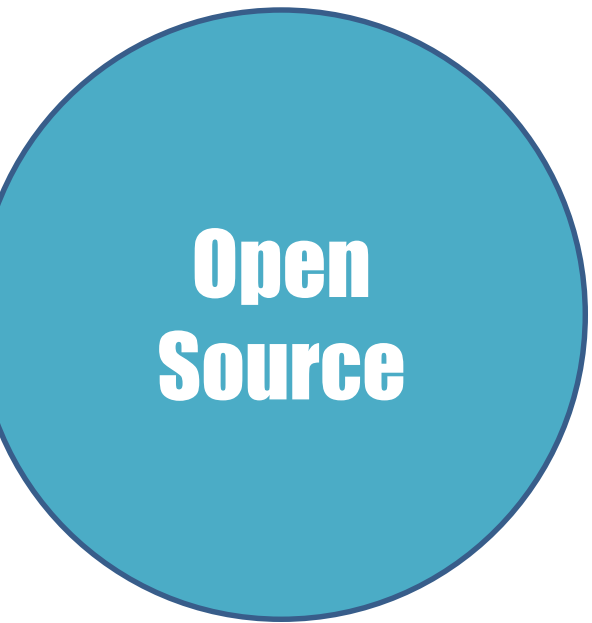
COURSE ACTIVITIES

- Purdue study abroad course students transported and help set up media center components.
- Community meetings were held to discuss media center future.
- Students took part in community film viewings.
- Students participated in filming several oral histories.
- Community identified four women and six men film makers.

CHALLENGES

- Need for consistent, reliable source of sustainable energy in the community
- Rapid spread of Windows susceptible computer viruses throughout and between communities resulting in loss of data
- Large amounts of media data among community members and film makers
- Software and virus protection updates infrequent due to remote location and limited internet access

IMPACTS



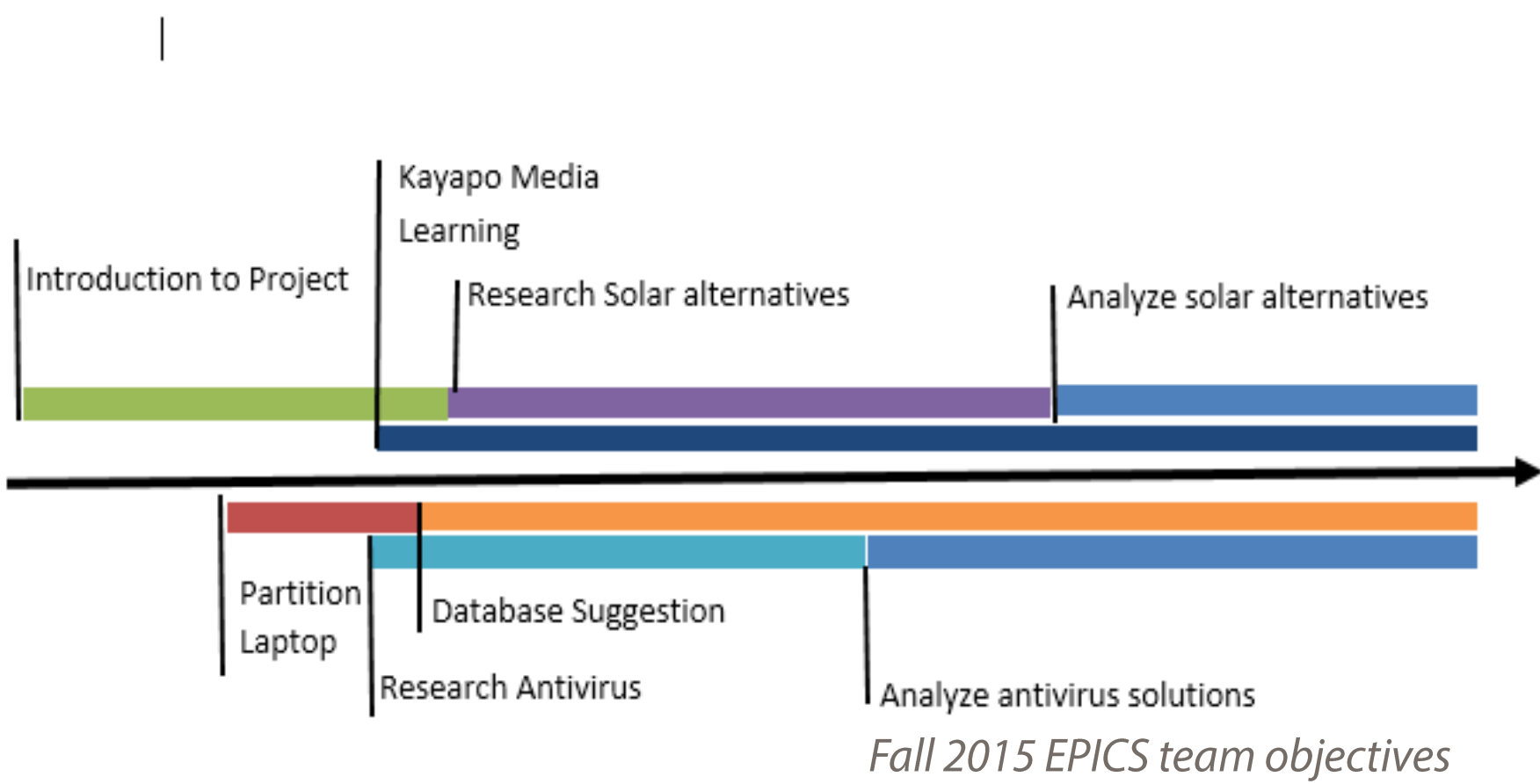
Using a Linux operating system provides an opportunity for future flexibility and freedom as the media center continues to grow and be shaped by community visions.



The media center has the potential to support various cultural heritage initiatives including young Kayapó pop musicians or the filming of oral stories told by community elders.

NEXT STEPS

- Virus prevention and protection research, testing, and recommendation.
- Solar power safety knowledge research and documentation.
- Reliable Solar power system to support media center needs
- Data management system to create secure space for file storage and sharing.
- Begin community media workshop materials.



PARTNERS

AUKRE Aukre film makers

EPICS® Purdue Engineering Projects in Community Service

UFU Universidade Federal de Uberlândia

